

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 5-14 with the following amended paragraph:

The sealant is applied to an inner face portion of the gasket 3 that comes in contact with the sealing plate, i.e., an inner side portion from the raised portion through the bottom face, and an inner side portion of the case 1 from the raised portions through the peripheral portion of the bottom. After applying the sealant, the gasket 3 and the sealing plate 2 are incorporated in this order in the opening of the case 1 and the peripheral portion of the case 1 is bent inward, thereby making caulked sealing. In the figure, a film of the sealant is represented as 9. The metal case 1 has a major inner face 30 and a minor inner face 32. It can be seen that sealant 9 is in the form of a layer sandwiched between the major inner face 30 of the metal case 1 and a major outer face 38 of gasket 3, and also between a major inner face 36 of gasket 3 and a major outer face 34 of the sealing plate 2.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 3-21 with the following amended paragraph:

An upper insulating ring 18 and a lower insulating ring 19 for certainly preventing a short circuit of the electrodes are provided at the upper and lower parts of the element unit. Then, a positive electrode lead 12a connected to the positive electrode 12 is electrically connected to a positive electrode terminal 15 provided on a sealing body 16. A negative electrode lead 14a connected to the negative electrode 14 is electrically connected to the metal case 11 that also functions as a negative electrode terminal. Further, a sealant 17 is provided between the opening of the metal case 11 and the peripheral portion of the sealing body 16. After positioning the element unit and the upper and lower insulating rings in the metal case 11, a ring-shaped recessed section is formed near the opening of the case so as to form a step section 20 for receiving the sealing body. Next, the sealant is applied to the inner circumferential face of the opening of the case 11 in a thickness of 5 to 100 μm . The film of the sealant is represented as 17. The film of sealant 17 is in the form of a layer sandwiched between the major inner face 30 of the metal case 11 and the major outer face 34 of the sealing body 16. As a method for judging the applied state of the sealant by image recognition, a method disclosed in the above-described prior example is applicable.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 2. These sheets, which include Figs. 1 and 2, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1 and 2. In Fig. 1, reference numbers 30 (major inner face of metal case), 32 (minor inner face of metal case), 34 (major outer face of sealing body), 36 (major inner face of gasket), and 38 (major outer face of gasket) have been added. Reference numbers 30, 32, and 34 have been added to Fig. 2. No new matter has been added by these amendments, and entry is respectfully requested.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets